

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: )  
Srinivasan, et al. )      Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned )      Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: January 18, 2000 )  
For: Method and System for Representing )  
and Accessing Object-Oriented Data in a )  
Relational Database System )

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to a substantive examination of the application, please consider the following  
remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 16-20 and 22 in the parent application were cancelled in the filing under 37 CFR § 1.53(b). No other Claims are amended or added; hence, Claims 1-15, 21, and 23 in the parent are pending in the present application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 21, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in the parent Application as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,937,409 ("Wetherbee") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,016,499 ("Ferguson").

Applicants respectfully submit that rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is not proper in